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THE TABLET.——No. CXXVII.

(CONTINUATION.)

"*The multitude, in all countries, are patient to a certain point.*"

GOVERNMENT can never be so far reduced to a science, as to render it proper for Legislators to act, on all occasions, by general principles. Some particular cases may be involved in such singular circumstances, that natural sagacity becomes a better guide than principles or precedents. And it will frequently be a point of great delicacy with a legislator to determine, how far his conduct should be controled by the public opinion. It is apt to be supposed that the sentiments of a free, enlightened people, are seldom founded in error. This idea must be a little qualified, before it can be adopted as one of those specific maxims which rest on immutable truth. I will dilate briefly upon the subject, and leave the reader to form such a result as his own reflections may dictate.

The general sense of the community is always too solemn to be trifled with; and it is often too powerful to be resisted. But this solemnity and force can only prevail in situations of a very momentous nature. Most questions that are discussed are not obvious or interesting enough to affect the touch of the great bulk of mankind. If a legislature happen to pass laws contrary to natural justice, or illy accommodated to the adventitious state of the people, they will probably excite uneasiness, and ought to be repealed. In times of great disorder, the current prejudices of the day may be favorable to laws that are capricious or unjust; but the operation of such laws will soon become unpopular. So on the other hand, in a disturbed irregular state of society, a temper of opposition, in the public mind, against a just and honorable mode of procedure, will imperceptibly give way to the progress of justice and good order. There is a right and wrong in the nature of things; and it will be found that popular prejudice will not long support the one, or resist the other. Society must dissolve itself when the people can be drawn into a serious opposition to measures founded in wisdom and rectitude. The complaints therefore of discontented men should never divert public rulers from such pursuits as are in themselves honest and prudent. Though some people may murmur, the great mass of the community will obey.

The multitude, in all countries, are patient to a certain point. They will generally bear, as much as ought to be borne by human nature, before they refuse obedience, and fly to wars and insurrections for relief. There are few or no revolts where the error has been principally on the side of the oppressed. Perhaps some circumstances of disrespect or provocation may attend the opposition, but the fundamental maxims of a revolting people will gain advocates in proportion as they are discussed. Clamors and suspicions may originate in trifles, and often deserve no notice.—But deliberate disaffection among the mass of the people, must be redressed by the government, or it will redress itself.

To cherish the caprice of an individual, or community, is a ready way to incur ill will and contempt. Opinions that have no reasonable foundation will be transitory. They may safely be disputed and moderately opposed. There can never be any danger in bringing them into public examination. Nothing tries the merit of public regulations better than to bring them to the test of an experiment. If they shrink from the trial, it is an evidence that they contain some false materials; but still the clamor excited against a measure under contemplation is no sufficient proof, that it will not turn out favorable in the experiment. There is an essential difference in the sentiments of any people relative to a law, before and after it is put into execution. While a law is in agitation, a thousand feelings and prejudices may give it too bad or too good a coloring; but when it takes effect, it begins to be examined among the people, more upon the ground of its own merit, and will finally stand or fall, as its real character deserves. The chief enquiry a legislator should make, is, what the real interests of the community require of him. Having ascertained this point, he will do well to enquire whether the popular opinion will probably sanction the plans he is about to adopt. If he finds the current of prejudice against him, he will, by degrees, be able to reconcile the feelings of the people to their true interests. It is a matter of a good deal of discretion to counteract errors that may exist in society, against the public good; but the difficulty of the task will never deter a firm and virtuous legislator from making attempts. Moderation is compatible with firmness, and he will not, if he be a prudent man, defeat his purpose by rashness, any more than he will lose it by delay. Discretion is as much a public virtue as honesty or patriotism; but it can never be discreet to flatter people in their prejudices and faults, when it would promote their prosperity to lay them aside.

TRANSLATED
FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

ADDRESS of the NATIONAL ASSEMBLY to the PEOPLE of FRANCE.

FEBRUARY 11th, 1790.

(CONTINUED.)

SUCH is our work, people of France, or rather such is yours; for we are but your organs, it is you who have enlightened, encouraged and supported us in our labors. What period can be compared with the present? What an honorable inheritance you are about transmitting to posterity! Raised to the rank of citizens, admissible to every employment, enlightened censors of the administration! Although you are not the depositories, you are certain that every thing is done through you, and for you, who are equal in the sight of the law; free to act, to speak, to write, accountable to no man, but only to the common will. what condition can be fairer? Can there be a citizen, deserving that name, who dares cast a look behind, who would wish to dig up the ruins with which we are surrounded, to rebuild the former edifice?

But what has not been said? What has not been done to weaken in you the impression which so much good ought to produce? *We have destroyed every thing*, they say: that means, that every thing ought to be reestablished. And what is there to be regretted? Would you wish to know? of all the objects that have been reformed or destroyed, let such persons be interrogated, as are not interested; let even the candid opinion of such as are interested be required; only except such, as to enhance the afflictions of personal interest, commiserate at this hour, the fate of those who at other times were indifferent to them; and we shall see whether the reform of each of these objects does not comprehend the general wishes of the public.

We have acted with too great precipitation; and many others reproach us *with having acted too slowly*. With too much precipitation! Are they ignorant that it is only by attacking and overturning abuses all at once, that we may hope to see ourselves effectually delivered; that then and then only, every person finds himself interested in the establishment of order; that slow and partial reforms have always ended in reforming nothing; in short, that the abuses which are preserved, become the prop, and shortly the restorer of such as were supposed to be destroyed?

"*Our Assemblies are tumultuous.*" To what purpose this complaint, provided the decrees issued by them are wise? We are however, far from wishing to present to your admiration, the detail of all our debates. We have more than once been afflicted by them ourselves; but we have at the same time perceived that it was too unjust to endeavour to take the advantage of them; and after all, this impetuosity was the almost inevitable effect of the first engagement that ever perhaps took place between principles and errors.

We are accused with having *aspired after a chimerical perfection*. Foolish reproach! Which is plainly but a thin disguised wish to perpetuate abuses—The National Assembly has never attended to such servile interested & pusillanimous motives: It has had the courage or rather the reason to believe, that useful ideas, necessary to mankind, were not necessarily destined to adorn the pages of a book; and that the supreme Being, by giving *perfectibility* to man, the particular attribute of his nature, did not prohibit him from applying it to SOCIAL ORDER, which has become the most universal of his interests, and almost the first of his wants.

Is it possible, they say *to regenerate an old and corrupted nation*. Let them learn, that none are corrupted but such as wish to perpetuate corrupt abuses; and that a nation will renovate, the day it resolves to renew its liberty. Mark the rising generation; whose hearts already palpitate with joy and hope! How pure, noble, and patriotic are its sentiments! With what an enthusiasm do we observe it endeavouring to have the honor of being admitted to take the citizens oath! But why answer such a miserable reproach! Shall the National Assembly be reduced to excuse itself for not having despaired of the French people?

Nothing has yet been done for the people, they have dared to say—And yet it is the people's cause which every where triumphs. Nothing done for the people! And does not every abuse which has been destroyed, prepare or secure consolation for them? *They did not complain*—because the excess of their misfortunes stifled their complaints. *At this time they are unhappy*. Say rather *they are still unhappy*." But they shall not long be so; we pledge our oaths for it.

(To be continued.)

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
TUESDAY, JUNE 21.

Mr. GERRY's motion on the assumption of the State debts, which was inserted in this paper of the 26th, under consideration

Mr. AMES:

I AM obliged to obtrude my sentiments upon the committee, under circumstances which stifle the hope of procuring for them a welcome reception. The curiosity of the assembly in the first stages of a public debate, will procure some indulgence and administer considerable aid to him who has to support a part in it.—But this subject has been debated till it has become tedious; there is very little remaining to be be said which can excite curiosity, or reward attention. The feelings of the committee will procure me belief when I say, that I obey the duty of attempting to obviate the objections which have been urged by the gentleman from Virginia, and which I think is imposed upon me by the nature of some of them, with an unaffected reluctance. I will hope, however, that a candid condescension to the necessity of my situation, and a sense of public duty, will overcome, or suspend for a time, the disgust which has attended the revival of this debate.

The zeal of the gentlemen, on both sides, has led them to draw aid to their cause from very remote sources. But all the objections against the assumption may be comprised in these two—that the measure is against justice, and against policy. Both sides of the question have been maintained with an uncommon warmth of conviction—in candor, and probably in strict truth, this ought to be mutually understood as the evidence of a sincere zeal for the public good.

To evince the justice of the assumption, I take, as the ground of my reasoning, a proposition which is admitted on both sides; that the expences of the war ought to be made a common charge upon the United States.

It will illustrate my argument, to observe, that this war was between this country and Britain, and not a war of particular States—All America, Congress in their resolves, the act appointing commissioners to settle the accounts, the late amendment (Mr. Madison's) to the proposition for assuming the State debts, and the objections to that proposition corroborate the idea that the expences of the war ought to be equalized. Assume the debts, and settle the accounts, and this is effected. There is an end to the inequality as soon as this is done.—This answer is so plain and conclusive, that it is attempted to take off its force by saying, that the accounts will not be settled. If this assertion is true, the non-assumption is plainly unjust—For the burden is confessedly unequal now, and the only reason for refusing to take this burden off some of the States, is the certain assurance that they will be relieved from so much as shall be found to exceed their share, when the accounts shall be settled. But if the accounts are not to be settled at all, the States, which are now overloaded, have no justice to expect but from the assumption. It cannot be known with certainty which will be a creditor, or which a debtor State, at present. If the accounts should not be adjusted, we must remain in ignorance; we ought therefore to exclude all consideration of the other claims, because it would be useless, and apply the principal of equality to the State debts.—The debts to be assumed are either duly proportioned among the States, or they are not. If they are so proportioned, then it is certainly politic, and not unjust, because it would be equal to assume them. If they are now unduly proportioned, it is even in terms against equality to leave them upon the States.

If the war has made a random distribution of debts upon the States, it is best to make the amount which is to be left unsettled, as little as may be. For the probability is, that as you diminish the unsettled amounts, you make the inequalities less. This will serve as an answer to those also who say, that supposing a settlement to take place two or three years hence, a State may be relieved from a light burden of its own debt, and be obliged to bear, as its proportion of the assumed debt, one more weighty. For it is not certain that it will have in that case more to bear than its part, and if it should turn out to be more, the balance may be known almost as soon as the interest will commence—The assertion that the accounts will not be settled, has been made with confidence. To judge how far we ought to guide our conduct by it, it is enough to examine what States it comes from. Let the gentlemen who make it ask their own hearts, let them look round and ask one another, whether their States are the more clamorous for their dues, or apprehensive of a settlement, which will expose their delinquency. In this place, where facts are known, this question will be an argument.

But what ground is there for saying that the accounts will not be adjusted? This was positively engaged by the former government. It is improper for Congress to act as if Congress was not to be trusted. Commissioners are employed in the business? A motion to extend their time and powers has met with no opposition, and it is maturing into a law. Who will oppose it? Not New-England! we wish it—we have pledged ourselves to support it; you ought to believe us, when it is so easy to bring us to the test. I have myself moved resolutions—the best I could devise—which I thought would facilitate—would force a settlement. I

am ready to revive them.—Surely thoſe who urge that the accounts will not be ſettled, do not propoſe to fulfil their own prophecy.

It is certain therefore, that if there is a diſpoſition in this houſe to prevent proper meaſures being adopted to procure a ſettlement, it will be diſappointed—I wiſh to remove this ground of objection, by urging the buſineſs of liquidation forward. If then proviſion is to be made for liquidating the accounts, the argument which I deduced from it remains in full force. All pretence of inequality is removed by it. It is a full anſwer to ſeveral other objections—it becomes unneceſſary to aſk whether State notes remain debts againſt this government after they have been received into the State treaſuries; whether the United States are obliged to aſſume before the balances are found on a ſettlement: and whether the debts were wiſely or unwiſely contracted? It becomes immaterial to calculate how many parts in an hundred New-Hampſhire, and how many Connecticut will pay; and how much Virginia has paid, and will now have to pay. What was wrong in the diſtribution of the burdens of the war will be rectified; and as to future payments, all the citizens will be upon a footing. As the gentleman from Virginia reaſons with great candor, I am ſure he will be ſorry that in his obſervations he has wholly neglected, certainly through inadvertency, to notice an argument which ſeems on both ſides, to be conſidered as abſolutely concluſive. When I ſay that both ſides allow this argument to be concluſive, I preſume my meaning is underſtood as I formerly expreſſed it. For the anſwer to it is, that the accounts will not be ſettled; which admits the force of the reaſon, and reſts the deciſion upon a point of fact.

Perhaps for the ſake of ſimplicity and perſpicuity, I ought not to purſue the enquiry as to the juſtice of the aſſumption any further. Tho' I mean to rely upon the argument I have ſtated, it will furniſh an anſwer to ſome objections to urge another. It is ſaid theſe are State debts, Congreſs has nothing to do with them.

When the war commenced, Congreſs had neither money, nor troops. They were ſo far from having a right to tax the States that they had neither the powers of a government, nor a rule by which to require contributions. They appealed to the good will and patriotiſm of the States, and entreated them to furniſh ſupplies to the extent of their power. The calls upon the States were not taxes or debts—but advances or loans to the public. This is explicitly and formally declared by the reſolves of Congreſs. I have made ſome attempt to examine the journals in order to ſhew from them how totally unfounded the aſſertion is that theſe conſtituted debts againſt the States. But I found that the titles only of the reſolves would fill a ſheet of paper. Nothing can be more fully proved than the contrary, not only by the letter of the reſolves, but by the conduct of Congreſs. In ſome caſes, no regard was paid to the conjectural ratio by which the States ought to furniſh men and ſupplies. In other inſtances ſome of the States were wholly omitted, and not unfrequently a ſingle State was called upon for ſupplies. One of the moſt ſignal proofs, however, is that in the reſolve of Feb. 9, 1780. It is expreſsly ſtipulated that if the States ſhould furniſh more than they are called upon for, the United States will ſtand charged with it. The reſolve of Jan. 5, 1783, even in terms, recognizes the troops whom the States were to ſettle with as the creditors of the union, for whom good ſecurity muſt be provided.

This is an enquiry into the juſtice of the aſſumption. I reject therefore the forms of the tranſaction, and aſk, whether, if the war had been confined to a corner, inſtead of ſpreading over the continent, and one State had incurred the whole debt of 80 millions, it would be juſt to leave the burthen upon that State? Conſiſtently with the reſolves I have mentioned, and the known ſenſe of America, could it be called a State debt? I am ſure of my anſwer, for the queſtion extorts it—The difference between the caſe I have ſuppoſed, and that which is in debate is only in degree—there is none in the principle.

It will be anſwered, perhaps, that it is true we owe the States. They are not finally to bear the burthen—let them pay what they owe and we will pay them—This is a dangerous conceſſion to thoſe who make it, if the accounts are never to be ſettled, as it is urged by thoſe who contend againſt the aſſumption. For it amounts to this—the debt is binding and yet it will never be paid. It preſents them a choice of difficulties, it forces them to confeſs either that the aſſumption will not wrong you, or that the non-aſſumption will end in cheating ſuch of the States as are your creditors.

It will be ſaid it is true however, that, the United States ſtand indebted to the States, but the creditors of the States have no juſt claim upon the United States.

There is a great difference between the juſtice that will be done by the aſſumption to the States, and to their creditors.

The States were called upon during the war to make advances. Accordingly they procured ſomething by taxes, and ſtill more was procured by paper money, which died in the hands of the poſſeſſor. They have alſo paid ſome part ſince the peace. So far the States as ſuch, actually made advances—But the principal part was obtained either by borrowing, or ſeizing private property, or by drafting men. So far the advances were made by individuals—and at periods ſo critical, and under ſuch circumſtances of violence and hardſhip, as to give a peculiar ſanction to their claim upon the juſtice and honor of their country.

Juſtice plainly requires that theſe perſons ſhould be repaid, their intereſt at leaſt, in all events, and without delay. Their claims, in every view, are perfect—moſt of them are original holders. But neither the juſtice of the caſe, nor the engagements of Congreſs require that the States ſhould be repaid till the extent of their demand can be known. For I readily admit that nothing more than the balances of their *actual* advances are due from the United States to the individual States. This has been urged againſt the aſſumption, but without foundation—If a State paid more than its proper ſhare the ſurplus ſhould be repaid. But if a payment was only promiſed and is ſtill to be made juſtice is due to the creditors and not to the State. The idea may be illuſtrated by conſidering the States as agents or contractors for the union, what they paid they claim for themſelves, what they barely promiſed ſhould be paid by their employers, who had the benefit of the debt, eſpecially if the agent cannot or will not pay—I cannot think it neceſſary to give any further anſwer to the queſtion, ſo logically propoſed with regard to the nature of the debts when redeemed, and in the State treaſuries.

What remains due ought to fall not unequally upon States, but upon the whole ſociety—It ought if not paid ſooner, to fall upon poſterity. If ſome States ſhould loſe wealth and people, and others increaſe, if new States ſhould join the union, or ſpring up within it, and the weſtern wilderneſs be thronged with people, the burthen will be equalized upon all the citizens.—Liberty and independence were procured for the whole, and for poſterity—why then ſhould not all contribute to the price?

As it reſpects the army debt, the very terms of the bargain bind the United States. Congreſs promiſed to pay the men, but called upon the States to raiſe them. Afterwards, when the paper failed, the States were requeſted to make up the depreciation—State notes were given for it, which remain due. Probably all the States cannot pay. In this inſtance not only juſtice, but your plighted faith require you to pay them; you have aſked their ſervices, and had them; you have promiſed to reward them, and they remain unrewarded. I have already ſuppoſed the caſe of the whole debt being thrown upon one State. If inſtead of the whole debt, its zeal or the neceſſity of its affairs had preſſed a State forward to exceed, and in its diſtreſs to diſregard, its ability to pay, and accordingly had run in debt three times as much as it can pay—that the war had ſcattered its citizens and waſted its property—are the officers and ſoldiers who expelled the enemy, and who did not care which State line they ſerved in, to be told, you ſerved the United States; but you are the creditors of South-Carolina? It is true, you ſhed your blood for us—by your valour, we ſit here—we have ſeen your wrongs, and when it would do you no good, becauſe we had no power, we told the world how deeply we lamented them. But go home and ſtarve—Would not this wring drops from their hearts, and plant thorns in our own?

The like reaſoning will apply to another deſcription of the debts to be aſſumed—to the certificates given by the commiſſaries and other officers of the United States, and ſince aſſumed by the particular ſtates. You cannot deny your *own* by calling them *ſtate* debts—A great part of the debt of South-Carolina is ſaid to be of that kind. Is that ſtate to be cruſhed with a weight which it cannot bear, or are the creditors to be ruined becauſe the ſtate will be undone, if they are not? Or how will this comport with the principle admitted on both ſides of equalizing the expences of the war?

The beſt fund of the ſtates, and hitherto the only one of the union, the impoſt has been taken away by adopting the conſtitution. Let the debts follow the funds. Let the world judge whether the generous confidence of the ſtate creditors in the public juſtice ought to be abuſed, and whether they ought to be made to repent the cordial ſupport which they gave to the new conſtitution. The force of this argument may be inferred from the uncommon pains which have been taken to deſtroy it. The fact is denied, and the iſſue of the queſtion has been boldly reſted upon this point, that the ſtates moſt urgent for the aſſumption were not incapacitated from providing for their debts by the ſurrender of the impoſt. The impoſt collected in New-Hampſhire is called the amount of that ſtate's contribution to the union, and the ratio by which ſhe ought to contribute is taken from her preſent repreſentation. I wave, at this moment, all comment upon the unfairneſs and fallacy of this mode of computation. I proceed to obſerve, that an uncommon uſe is made of the reſult. According to her number of repreſentatives, that ſtate ought to pay one twentieth, and yet no more than an hundreth part of the impoſt of the union is paid by that ſtate, or rather collected in it—of courſe, it is gravely ſaid, it will ſave four-fifths of the ſum which it would have had to pay, if the debt had been aſſeſſed upon the union before the conſtitution was framed, and this ſaving to the ſtate may apply to the diſcharge of its debt. But, ſir, ſuch requiſitions never were paid, and never could have been paid by the ſtates. Experience had taught us, that it was not to be expected, nor was it in their power.—This indeed was one of the principal reaſons for adopting the conſtitution. Are we ſeriouſly addreſſed, when we are told, that the ſavings of a revenue, which did not exiſt, that four-fifths of nothing may be applied to pay the ſtate creditors? Without further regarding the ridicule of the argument, let us trace the fact. The debt of New-Hampſhire is ſaid to be about 230,000 dollars—The yearly intereſt at 4 per cent. is upwards of 9000 dollars. The impoſt and tonnage collected in that ſtate from Auguſt to December, is near 8,000 dollars. So that the impoſt of that ſtate, tho' far ſhort of her actual contribution to the common treaſury, will, in the whole year, greatly exceed their intereſt which aſſuming her debt will throw upon the United States. Here then the fund ſurrendered by that ſtate is more than adequate to the debt which ought to follow it. The whole cauſe has been hazarded on the fact, and here the fact is againſt him who appealed to it. May I be permitted to aſk, whether it is not to be lamented, that, thro' inadvertency or miſtake, the whole fact was not mentioned? May I demand why the non-importing ſtates were preferred to the importing ſtates for calculating the impoſt? Maſſachuſetts collected under a ſtate law near 150,000 dollars impoſt yearly. This falls ſhort of her preſent collection under the law of the union, which is nearly equal to the intereſt of her debt. The exciſe would have ſupplied the deficiency, and that fund you are about to invade. It would be wrong to take away funds, tho' inferior to the diſcharge of intereſt, and yet to leave the whole debt upon the ſtate. If the funds ſurrendered were equal to the debts, it has been admitted that the union ought to take the debts alſo. The injuſtice of rejecting the debts, and taking the impoſt to a leſs amount, differs only in degree.—But why was New York paſſed over in ſilence! The intereſt of the debt of that ſtate would not equal the impoſt collected within it. What will you ſay to that ſtate?

The candour and impartiality of the committee will be exerciſed in deciding whether the arguments ſo often urged in favour of the aſſumption, that you ought to take the debts with the impoſt, has loſt any thing of its force by this inveſtigation of facts: What is aſſerted on one ſide, and denied on the other, after a ſtrict enquiry, ends in the ſame point.

(To be continued.)

THURSDAY, JUNE 24.

Sketch of the Debate

In Committee of the whole on the report of the ſelect Committee, on the Memorial of the Officers of the Navy.

MR. SHERMAN obſerved, that by the memorial, and the report, it appears, that the Memorialiſts do not pretend to have any claim on the public by virtue of any exiſting reſolutions of Congreſs. The ſubject is very fully before the Committee—it lays with Congreſs therefore to determine, what is proper to be done in ſuch circumſtances. The application ſtands entirely on the baſis of its own merits, and he could conceive of no difficulty in deciding on it.

Mr. Stone obſerved, that it is true there is no claim by virtue of any antecedent contract or promiſe—nor was Commutation, he believed, promiſed to the officers of the army. In this view the officers of the navy ſtand exactly upon the ſame footing with thoſe of the army. He then entered into a conſideration of the merits, ſervices, and ſufferings of the Officers of the Navy—and from theſe and other conſiderations, urged the juſtice of their claim, as he could ſee no reaſon for the difference that had been made.

Mr. Huntington ſaid, there is but a little conſideration neceſſary to recollect the reaſon of the difference between the officers of the navy and army.——The officers of the army were firſt in the public ſervice—the navy was not formed till ſome time after hoſtilities commenced—the officers of the navy were put on the ſame footing in reſpect to pay as the army—the former had ſome advantages in point of rank—and they were entitled to a part of their captures.

He then gave an account of the origin of commutation—which was granted on account of the peculiar exigences of affairs at that time—During the time this buſineſs was in agitation, there were very few navy officers in the public ſervice, and no application was made by them for half-pay or commutation—They were aſhore, and many of them had retired to civil life—The reaſon therefore why they were not included in the Commutation was, there did appear at the time any neceſſity for the meaſure, as the United States did not then want a navy—whereas the public exingences with reſpect to the army were ſuch as rendered the reſolution for the Commutation to them abſolutely neceſſary—he however thought the claim of the Navy Officers founded on juſtice—and juſtice ſaid he is the ſtrongeſt plea that can be urged in ſupport of any demand whatever.

Mr. Hartley ſupported the memorial, he gave the officers great credit for their bravery, ſervices and attatchment to the cauſe of their country—he dilated on the hardſhips and ſufferings they endured—he adverted to the advantages they derived from captures—which he ſtated to be very inconſiderable—their claims ſaid he, appear to me to be founded on the ſtrictiſt and moſt partial juſtice—he hoped therefore that the report would be accepted, and a committee appointed to bring in a bill accordingly.

Mr. Baldwin, who was one of the ſelect committee which made the report, ſtated ſome of the reaſons which influenced the committee—alſo the conſiderations which were ſuppoſed to have led to the diſtinction between the navy and army, in reſpect to commutation—one of which was, that the officers of the navy were in the line of their particular calling, and which they were enabled to purſue with perhaps greater advantages than they ever did before.——Other circumſtances were mentioned by him tending to invalidate their claim.

Mr. Sherman obſerved, that if this report is adopted, it will open a very wide door indeed to applications for half-pay or commutation. He then gave a hiſtory of the origin of commutation or half-pay—which he ſaid was conſidered at the time, as a meaſure of neceſſity—and not of juſtice—and has been very much complained of by ſeveral of the States. The above neceſſity did not exiſt with reſpect to the officers of the navy—as at the time there were but 2 or 3 ſhips in ſervice. From this ſtate of facts he inferred that no precedent could be drawn in favor of extending the Commutation to the officers of the navy. He thought that their caſe was entitled to the conſideration of the Legiſlature on the principles of equity—he ſhould therefore be for the Committee's making full enquiry into the circumſtances of the whole buſineſs—and making ſuch proviſion as juſtice ſhould point out—but he was againſt the report in its preſent latitude.

Mr. Burke replied to the obſervations of Mr. Baldwin, reſpecting the officers of the navy being in the way of their profeſſion—and from the nature of the ſervice he ſhewed, that there was little weight in the obſervation—their circumſtances were very much altered for the worſe—and that they were now left in a very deſtitute ſituation—whereas the officers of the army are enjoying poſts and places of honor and profit. Their ſilence on the ſubject had been mentioned.—He obſerved that their diſperſed ſituation had been the principal reaſon of their not coming forward with their petition before.——Mr. Burke obſerved, that the officers of the navy were not treated like other priſoners, when they were taken, they ſuffered peculiarly, not as priſoners of war, but were treated like rebels, whoſe crimes were of the blackeſt nature.

Mr. Seney ſaid he was, and always had been, an advocate for the claims of the officers of the navy—he thought their memorial founded on the ſtricteſt juſtice—he introduced the repreſentation to Congreſs of the "illuſtrious" commander in chief of the late army on the ſubject of half-pay and penſions, which he read.

He then entered into a comparative view of the relative merits of the army and navy—and ſaid it was well known that many of them made as great ſacrifices as the other deſcription of officers. With reſpect to prize money, he doubted whether they had ever been benefited by it. In ſome inſtances where they had expected the moſt; they had, through the failure of agents, received only a certificate worth about five ſhillings in the pound; and that received only for a part of what was due. He replied to the ſeveral objections which had been offered, and concluded by ſaying, it would be unjuſt and impolitic not to grant their claims.

Mr. Sedgwick obſerved that no gentleman in the committee had deeper impreſſions made upon him, by the grateful recollection of the merits and ſervices of thoſe brave men, to whom America owed its freedom, than himſelf. Yet under the preſent circumſtances of the country, he thought it a duty he owed the people who had confided their intereſt to his management, to examine, on principle, the demands which were made upon the government for pecuniary grants. The applicants in the preſent inſtance did not place their demand on the ground of contract. For the contract under which the ſervices had been rendered, had been complied with according to the ſpecifyed terms, and performed to the extent of the powers of the government, in the ſame manner as other claims of a ſimilar nature had been ſatisfied. It was further, he ſaid, to be noticed, that during the time thoſe ſervices were performing, no diſſatisfaction had been manifeſted by the preſent memorialiſts. From theſe obſervations then, it clearly followed, that in point of contract, the claims of the officers of the navy were in all reſpects ſimilar to thoſe of every other individual in the community, who had received ſatisfaction by the ſame means. It would

then become gentlemen to reflect on the conſequences which would reſult from the eſtabliſhment of a precedent, which would go to the invalidation of all the *final* ſettlements which had been made.

Mr. Sedgwick ſaid, gentlemen had ſupported the claim of the applicants from a ſuppoſed analogy of their circumſtances, to thoſe of the gentlemen of the army. He ſaid there was the difference which aroſe from the circumſtance already mentioned—The commutation was founded in contract, the preſent claim was deſtitute of that ſupport. There were alſo other material circumſtances which very widely differed the two caſes. The officers of the army were called from purſuits by which they were enabled to ſupport and provide for their families, and to abandon their proſpects of eſtabliſhments by the buſineſs to which they had been educated. On the other hand, the gentlemen of the navy were promiſed handſome wages for continuing in that buſineſs to which they had been educated, and for which they were beſt, if not only qualified; and this too, at a time when, by the deſtruction of our commerce, many of them otherwiſe muſt have wanted employment. They had likewiſe additional encouragement from a participation in the avails of prizes, while the army derived no emolument from any ſuch ſource.

That the report of the ſelect committee being unſupported either on the ground of contract, or the principles on which the grant to the officers of the army was made, the application was merely to the generoſiy of the government. He ſaid it was a principle from which he profeſſed himſelf determined never to depart, not to diſſipate that property in idle or viſionary projects of generoſity, which is neceſſary to the performance of juſtice. That the arduous ſcenes in which we had been engaged, had impoſed the neceſſity of practiſing a rigid economy. That the conduct which we might under preſent embarraſsments purſue, it would be improper hereafter to conſider as a precedent. That it would indeed be a noble and generous ſentiment to compenſate all thoſe loſſes which our friends had ſuſtained by the war. But he aſked if ſuch would not be a vain attempt? Can we compenſate all the deſolation of fire and wanton depredation, provoked from the enemy by the patriotiſm of particular diſtricts in this country? Can we retribute the ſufferings which have been cauſed by the depreciation of our currency? Or the ruin of thouſands and thouſands by our delays of payment, and the conſequent depreciation of our ſecurities? Can we adminiſter to the relief of the vaſt number of widows and orphans, who from thoſe circumſtances, have been reduced from affluence to want and beggary? Remember too, he ſaid, the ſages, who in the hour of danger watched over your ſecurity—and who, in their beſt days, abſtracted themſelves from every lucrative purſuit, and devoted all their time and talents to the ſervice of their country. Theſe patriots, now in the evening of life, are the moſt meritorious objects of the generoſity of the government, yet they would nobly diſdain to aſk, or to receive the aid of the government, however neceſſary to them, until efficient proviſion was made for the performance of thoſe contracts, which we are under the moſt ſolemn obligation, if in our power, to fulfil. And he concluded by obſerving that when the improving reſources of our country ſhould enable the government generouſly to compenſate the ſufferings of thoſe ſeveral deſcriptions of perſons, then and not till then, might we extend to the memorialiſts the relief which they now ſought for.

Mr. Jackſon ſupported the claim of the officers. He obſerved that if the country had not derived ſo extenſive advantages from the exertions of the navy, it muſt be imputed to peculiar circumſtances, and not to any deficiency in the officers and ſailors—ſo far as their abilities could be exerted, no men diſtinguiſhed themſelves more. Had ours been a maritime, inſtead of an agricultural country, the importance of a navy would have ſtruck us more forcibly. Their claims he conſidered as founded in the ſtricteſt juſtice, and he had no doubt that if they had applied to the old Congreſs, they would have granted their requeſt—but reſtrained by a conſideration of the embarraſsments of the United States, they did not obtrude their petitions upon them—and now this very circumſtance is urged as a reaſon for not granting their petition.—In my opinion this did them great honor—ſince that time they have been ſcattered through all parts of the Union—this and other circumſtances have delayed their application to this time—but has not leſſened the equity of it.——He added many other obſervations, and concluded by ſaying, that he was fully in favor of the report.

Mr. Gerry was in favor of the report under certain conditions—which were, that the ſame be ſo conſtructed, as to aſcertain the amount of prize money received by the officers, and that the allowance ſhould be extended only to ſuch, as continued in the public ſervice to the end of the war. ——He adverted to the caſe of prizes, in which it had been ſaid, the officers had ſuffered thro the frauds of their agents.——If this is fact, it was a ſubject which called for redreſs—and on principles of equity an inveſtigation ought to take place.

Several other gentlemen ſpake on the occaſion. Mr. Page, Mr. Hartley, and Mr. Seney in favor—and Mr. Goodhue, and Mr. Sherman againſt the report.

On Mr. Fitzſimons' moving in the Houſe, that the report ſhould be re-committed.

Mr. Boudinot ſaid he was oppoſed to the recommitment, as he did not conceive that the relief propoſed could be granted under this report. From the reaſoning which he had heard on the ſubject this day, he was convinced, that if the commutation is extended to the memorialiſts, Congreſs will have to extend it to above 1000 officers of different diſcriptions.—It muſt be extended to the Staff officers, in ſeveral departments.—He enlarged on the unpopularity of half-pay and commutation—and ſaid, that if injuſtice had been done to the memorialiſts, every inſtance ought to be enquired into, and determined on its own merits. He was therefore in favor of rejecting the report—and ſtill leaving the memorial open to an enquiry as to the particular caſes which may require an inveſtigation.

MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1790.

THE bill to regulate ſeamen in the merchants ſervice, was bro't in engroſſed, read the third time, and paſſed.

Reports of the Secretary at war on ſundry petitions were read, which together with a report of a committee on the petition of Col. Meutges, were referred to a committee appointed to bring in a bill concerning diſabled ſoldiers, &c.

Mr. Wadſworth, from the joint committee who were to conſider and report the buſineſs neceſſary to be finiſhed previous to an adjournment, alſo to report when it would be proper to adjourn, reported, that in their opinion the buſineſs neceſſary to be acted upon may be completed by the 15th day of July next, and that an adjournment of the preſent ſeſſion ſhould take place by that time. The report was laid on the table.

The propoſed amendment to the bill for extending the enumeration law to the State of Rhode-Iſland, were taken into conſideration and diſagreed to. The bill was then ordered to be engroſſed.

Mr. Goodhue reported on the petition of E. H. Darby, which was read and laid on the table.

Mr. Ames preſented a petition from the inſpectors of the ports of Boſton, and Charleſtown, which was read and referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill for the amendment of the revenue laws.

Mr. Parker of the committee, to whom the report of the Secretary at War on the petition of Dr. B. Middleton, was committed, preſented a report, which was in favor of the petition.——Laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Thatcher, the report of the Secretary at War, on the petitions of James Berry and were read and accepted by the Houſe: Theſe with ſome other reports of the Secretary, were referred to a committee, who were ordered to bring in bills purſuant thereto.

The Houſe went into a committee of the whole on the report of a ſelect committee, reſpecting the Virginia ceſſion, and appointed a committee to bring in a bill, for ſecuring the reſervation made by that State in ſaid ceſſion. *Adjourned.*

TUESDAY, JUNE 29.

Mr. Gilman of the joint committee of both Houſes, reported, that they had examined the following bills and found them duly enrolled—viz. An Act providing the means of intercourſe between the United States and Foreign Nations—An Act for ſatisfying the claims of John McCord, and An Act for the relief of Nathaniel Twining. The Speaker affixed his ſignature to the ſame.

A meſſage was received from the Senate informing that they have paſſed an Act, authorizing the purchaſe of a tract of land at Weſt Point.

The bill for extending the enumeration Law to the State of Rhode-Iſland, having been engroſſed, was read the third time, and paſſed.

Mr. Fitzſimons, of the ſelect Committee on the bill providing the means of paying the intereſt on the debt of the United States, brought in a report, which was read—and made the order of the day to-morrow.

The report of the committee on the petition of E. H. Derby, was on motion of Mr. Goodhue, taken into conſideration; the ſubſtance of this report is in favor of extending the time allowed by law for payment of the duties on teas from ſix, to twelve months; this report was accepted, and referred to the committee appointed to prepare amendments to the collection law.

Mr. Jackſon moved that the committee of the whole ſhould be diſcharged from any further proceedings on the bill concerning the trade and navigation of the United States—this motion after a lengthy debate was negatived.

Mr. Jackſon then moved that the Houſe ſhould immediately reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole on this bill, which being carried after a ſhort debate,

Mr. Boudinot took the Chair.

This bill contained the diſcrimination in the duty on foreign tonnage; the firſt clauſe being rejected, the ſubſtance of the following propoſitions, moved by Mr. Fitzſimons, was adopted in lieu thereof, viz.

That from and after the day of next, there ſhall be laid and collected on all ſhips and veſſels not built, or regiſtered in the United States, a duty of per ton.

That on all ſhips or veſſels arriving in any part of the United States, from places at which the United States are not permitted to trade, the ſum of per ton.

The remainining clauſes of the bill being diſagreed to—the committee roſe and reported progreſs. Mr. Heiſter of the committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill making further proviſion for paying the invalid penſioners.——Adjourned.

LONDON, June 6.

INDIA STOCK.

THE public cannot be too often reminded of the obligation they are laid under to the unwearied attention and ſolicitude of Mr. Huſſey and Mr. Tiernay, whoſe virtue and preſeverance have at length obtained that information which the public have ſo long in vain endeavoured to procure. The motions of thoſe gentlemen have brought before the Houſe of Commons ſuch plain intelligible ſtatements of the affairs of the company, as can no longer admit of the ſmalleſt doubt but they are ruinous beyond any retrievement. The Houſe have fortunately ordered the accounts to be printed, a correſpondent has furniſhed us with them, and we are enabled thereby to ſtate to our readers the following authentic facts, deduced from theſe papers, all ſigned by the Accountant-General of the company.

In the paper, No. VI. it is emphatically acknowledged, that on the 1ſt of February, 1789, the Company were worſe than they were on the 1ſt of February, 1781, by 12,255,558l.

In the paper, No. III. it is declared, that on the 1ſt of March 1785 [ſoon after the Board of Controul were appointed,] their goods in warehouſe unſold were worth 2,037,894l. whereas on the 1ſt of March, 1790, their unſold goods amounted only to 772,239l. And by No. V. it is confeſſed, that their effects are inſufficient to pay their debts by 4,762,543l. and by adding 3,700,000l to make their capital ſtock equal to its market price, and 1,178,291l. the amount of the laſt ſix items of their effects, which it is preſumed are deſperate, or at leaſt very dubious, the deficiency will be increaſed to 9,640,834l. to anſwer which the Company have nothing to reckon upon but what is called their dead ſtock; which though it has ſince 1702 coſt the company 8,222,970l. (being in truth little more than the accumulated aggregate of all their charges for erecting Forts and Houſes of trade,) was, in 1783 admitted to be capable of producing very little, if any thing, on a ſale. And yet to ſerve, no doubt, party purpoſes, we have ſeen the Company's ſtock rarified by ſtratagem to its preſent enormous price of 175l. per cent.

THE CONTINENT.

It is not at all ſurpriſing that the oſtenſible Miniſter of France, M. Necker, and the General Aſſembly ſhould not be on the beſt terms—It is the natural conſequence of a free conſtitution. When the French were under the fetters of deſpotic ſway, they durſt not complain publicly, they grumbled in ſecret. The motions of all Miniſters ought to be narrowly watched and their conduct as Miniſters ſtrictly examined into

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FROM THE FRENCH.

O H, thou young Chief, FAYETTE, the good and brave,
Freedom's firm friend beyond th' Atlantic wave;
While Glory mentions, France repeats thy name,
And Time conſigns it to immortal fame!
Though ſpots the fame of our firſt Heroes ſtain,
Since chaining foes, they rivetted our chain:
Yet FAYETTE breaks oppreſſion's iron rod,
A Patriot deem'd, thence grows a Demigod.

NEW-YORK, JUNE 30, 1790.

APPOINTMENT.——*By Authority.*

The PRESIDENT of the United States has been pleaſed to nominate, and by and with the advice and conſent of the Senate to appoint,

The SIEUR DE LA MOTTE, Vice-Conſul of the United States for the port of the Havre de Grace, in the Kingdom of France.

We hear that the bill to determine the permanent, and temporary ſeat of government of the United States, had a ſecond reading in the Senate yeſterday—when New-York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore were negatived, as the temporary reſidence, and the Potomac ſtands in the bill as the permanent ſeat of Government, after ten years have elapſed. The whole ſubject is ſtill open to diſcuſſion.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in ——— England, to his friend in America.

"*SINCE I wrote you laſt I have been in Londou, about the ——— which I informed you was detained here by the Collector; he alledging ſhe was not navigated according to law. As you are much concerned in American veſſels, I think it neceſſary to give you a particular account of this tranſaction, and alſo to inform you of ſome very alarming proceedings going forward, on this ſide the Atlantic, againſt American ſhipping in general. You are acquainted that the Britiſh Navigation Act, requires, that the maſter and three-fourths of the mariners on board all foreign veſſels trading to England, be ſubjects of the conntry the ſhips belong to. Now it is neceſſary that the Captain and three-fourths of the mariners of every American veſſel coming to England, ſhould be ſubjects of America at the time independence was granted by England. When the ——— arrived here, ſhe had 14 people on board, out of which number the Captain and 10 of the people were really Americans, the remaining three were Engliſhmen, who had become citizens ſince the war—according to the preſent conſtruction of the Britiſh navigation act, ſhe had one more real American on board than the law requires, but 5 of the above number were apprentices, which the Collector would not allow to be numbered as mariners, the veſſel was in conſequence detained till he had the opinion of the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms; but this being too difficult a queſtion for them to reſolve, it was referred to the Attorney-General, and after detaining the veſſel 7 weeks, with her cargo on board, he gave his opinion that ſhe was navigated according to law. I wiſh to remark, that apprentices on board Engliſh veſſels are always allowed to be mariners by the collector, underwriters, and every other perſon. When an American veſſel arrives here, the collector has all the crew up to the Cuſtom-Houſe, and makes them ſwear* where they were born, how old they are, how and where they have been employed, &c. *in ſhort, it is a ſpecies of inquiſition which the collector has inſtituted againſt the Americans only, as he makes no ſuch enquiry of veſſels belonging to any other foreign nation, and I am ſorry to add that this partial conduct of the Collector is approved of by people in power, for I ſaw a letter from Lord Hawkesbury, who particularly mentioned it; this letter was in anſwer to one wrote him by the merchants of this place, deſiring ſouething might be done for the benefit of Britiſh ſhipping, to counteract the 10 pr. cent. diſcount, on all goods imported into the United States in American veſſels: He recommends that the merchants here ſhould reduce the freight of their veſſels, which he ſays would be only for a ſhort time, and that by* their exerting themſelves againſt American veſſels, and by the collector's being particularly ſtrict with them, *in a ſhort time it muſt have a good effect, and that as ſoon as he had gained the neceſſary information in the buſineſs, he promiſed that ſomething ſhould be done.——I have alſo been informed, that the merchants here have wrote out to America, giving poſitive orders not to ſhip any goods on board American veſſels; and without ſomething is done in this buſineſs, the ſooner you ſet them on fire the better.——You will alſo take notice, that a Britiſh ſubject becoming a citizen of America ſince the war, cannot hold any part of an American veſſel.*"

—The above facts are undoubted, coming from the very beſt authority.

ARRIVALS SINCE OUR LAST.— -NEW-YORK.

Brig Delight, Leader, St. Martins, 17 days.
Schooner Patty, Lacey, Shelburne, 10
——Sally, Patterſon, Shelburne, 14
Sloop New York Packet, Shaw, Rhode-Iſland, 3
—— Polly, Godfrey, ditto, ditto,
——Rambler, Carey, Peterſburg———,

NEW-YORK, June 26.

The NEW CONSTITUTION of the STATE of SOUTH-CAROLINA.

WE, the delegates of the PEOPLE of the STATE of SOUTH-CAROLINA, in general convention met, do ordain and eſtabliſh this conſtitution for its government.

ARTICLE I.

Sect. 1. The legiſlative authority of this ſtate ſhall be veſted in a general aſſembly, which ſhall conſiſt of a Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives.

Sect. 2. The houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall be compoſed of members choſen by ballot every ſecond year by the citizens of this ſtate, qualified as in this conſtitution is provided.

Sect. 3. The ſeveral election diſtricts in this ſtate ſhall elect the following number for Repreſentatives, viz.

Charleſton, including St. Philip and St. Michael,	Fifteen members
Chriſt Church,	Three members
St. John, Berkley,	Three members
St. Andrew,	Three members
St. George, Dorcheſter,	Three members
St. James, Gooſecreek,	Three members
St. Thomas and St. Dennis,	Three members
St. Paul,	Three members
St. Bartholomew,	Three members
St. James, Santee,	Three members
St. John, Colleton,	Three members
St. Stephen,	Three members
St. Helena,	Three members
St. Luke,	Three members
Prince William,	Three members
St. Peter,	Three members
All Saints, including its ancient boundaries,	One member
Winyaw, not including any part of All Saints,	Three members
Kingſton, not including any part of All Saints,	Two members
Williamſburgh,	Two members
Liberty,	Two members
Marlborough,	Two members
Cheſterfield,	Two members
Darlington,	Three members
York,	Two members
Cheſter,	Two members
Fairfield,	Two members
Richland,	Two members
Lancaſter,	Two members
Kerſhaw,	Two members
Claremont,	Two members
Claredon,	Two members
Abbeville,	Three members
Edgefield,	Three members
Newbury, including the fork between Broad and Saluda Rivers,	Three members
Laurens,	Three members
Union,	Two members
Spartan,	Two members
Greenville,	Two members
Pendleton,	Three members
St. Matthew,	Two members
Orange,	Two members
Winton, includiug the diſtrict between Savannah river, and the North fork of Ediſto.	Three members
Saxe Gotha,	Three members

Sect. 4. Every free white man, of the age of 21 years, being a citizen of this ſtate, and having reſided therein two years previous to the day of election, and who hath a freehold of fifty acres of land, or a town lot, of which he hath been legally ſeiſed and poſſeſſed at leaſt ſix months before ſuch election, or not having ſuch freehold or town lot, hath been a reſident in the election diſtrict in which he offers to give his vote, ſix months before the ſaid election, and hath paid a tax the preceding year of three ſhillings ſterling towards the ſupport of this government, ſhall have a right to vote for a member or members to ſerve in either branch of the legiſlature for the election diſtrict in which he holds ſuch property, or is ſo reſident.

Sect. 5. The returning officer, or any other perſon preſent, entitled to vote, may require any perſon who ſhall offer his vote at an election, to produce a certificate of his citizenſhip, and a receipt from the tax collector of his having paid a tax, entitling him to vote, or to ſwear, or to affirm, that he is duly qualified to vote agreeable to this conſtitution.

Sect. 6. No perſon ſhall be eligible to a ſeat in the houſe of repreſentatives, unleſs he is a free white man, of the age of twenty one years, and hath been a citizen and reſident in this ſtate three years previous to his election. If a reſident in the election diſtrict, he ſhall not be eligible to a ſeat in the houſe of repreſentatives, unleſs he be legally ſeiſed and poſſeſſed in his own right, of a ſettled freehold eſtate of five hundred acres of land, and ten negroes; or of a real eſtate of the value of one hundred and fifty pounds ſterling clear of debt. If a non-reſident he ſhall be legally ſeiſed and poſſeſſed of a ſettled eſtate therein of the value of five hundred pounds ſterling clear of debt.

Sect. 7. The ſenate ſhall be compoſed of members to be choſen for four years, in the following proportions, by the citizens of this ſtate, qualified to elect members to the houſe of repreſentatives, at the ſame time, in the ſame manner, and at the ſame places where they ſhall vote for repreſentatives, viz.

Charleſton, including St. Philip and St. Michael,	Two members
Chriſt Church,	One member
St. John, Berkley,	One member
St. Andrew,	One member
St. George,	One member
St. James, Gooſecreek,	One member
St. Thomas and St. Dennis,	One member
St. Paul,	One member
St. Bartholomew,	One member
St. James, Santee,	One member
St. John, Colleton,	One member
St. Stephen,	One member
St. Helena,	One member
St. Luke,	One member
Prince William,	One member
St. Peter,	One member
All Saints,	One member
Winyaw and Williamſburg,	One member
Liberty and Kingſton,	One member
Marlborough, Cheſterfield, and Darlington,	Two members
York,	One member
Fairfield, Richland, and Cheſter,	One member
Lancaſter and Kerſhaw,	One member
Claremont and Clarendon,	One member
Abbeville,	One member
Edgefield,	One member
Newbury, including the fork between Broad and Saluda rivers,	One member
Laurens,	One member
Union,	One member
Spartan,	One member
Greenville,	One member
Pendleton,	One member
St. Matthew and Orange,	One member
Winton, including the diſtrict between Savannah River, and the north fork of Ediſto,	One member
Saxe Gotha,	One member

(To be continued.)

A Deſcription of a curious piece of CLOCK WORK, lately finiſhed by Mr. *Walter Folgier*, jun. (a young man of 25 years of age, and bred to no kind of buſineſs) of Nantucket, Maſſachuſetts.

IT performs the office of a common Eight Day Clock, but what is moſt extraordinary, is the Aſtronomical part, which at once diſcovers the ingenuity of the inventor:—When the Sun ſhould riſe, there is a Sun riſes in the machine, comes to the meridian, and ſets at the time the Sun in the Heavens ſhould ſet at all ſeaſons of the year, and exhibits the Sun's declination, place in the Ecliptic, Time of her riſing and ſetting every day of the year; when the Moon ſhould riſe, there is a Moon that riſes in the Machine, making the ſame appearance that the Moon in the Heavens ſhould make, comes on the meridian, and ſets at the proper time, making all the different appearances that we ſee the Moon make in the Heavens.

It exhibits the Moon's declination, time of high and low water at all times of the year, and keeps the date of the year for the ſpace of one century without requiring any alteration.

By this machine the curious phenomena of the Harveſt Moon, is rendered plain and eaſy to be underſtood by the meaneſt capacity.

It is all performed with forty wheels, and a ſuitable number of pinions, beſide a large number of leavers, coins, &c. and contained between two braſs plates, ſeven inches long, and five inches wide, and between one of the ſaid plates and the dial plate, which is eighteen and an half inches long, and fourteen inches wide; the thickneſs from the dial plate to the back plate, is five inches; it is kept in motion by two weights of the ſize of the weights of a common Clock, and that motion kept regular by a ſecond pendnlum;—there is one wheel in it that keeps in motion continually, but that motion is ſo ſlow as to take up the ſpace of about eighteen and an half years to perform one revolution.

PITTSBURGH, May 29.

In Meſſrs. Dunlap and Claypoole's Pennſylvania Packet on the 6th of May laſt, is a long memorial or repreſentation from the chiefs of the 6 nations of Indians, to the ſupreme Executive council of this ſtate, ſtating, that they have no place to trade but at Pittſburgh, and when they come there, they have their camps plundered, and their horſes and canoes ſtole, by the white people, and when they apply for redreſs no man can underſtand them, to hear, judge and interpret, ſo that the wrongs done them may be redreſſed; and praying, that the great fire of the Quaker State would appoint ſome perſon at Pittſburgh to judge and interpret for them; alſo, that the cornplanter, Half Town and the New Arrow, together with an interpreter, may attend the great fire, to make known their grievances, &c.

On reading the memorial (of which the above is a ſhort extract) obſerves a correſpondent, I was led to reflect a little on the ſubject, and muſt confeſs, cannot ſee any advantage it would be to the ſtate to appoint perſons, as agent and interpreter, to reſide in this place, to attend on the Idians when they come to trade; on the contrary, it is well known, that when the Indians have any perſons they can apply to for preſents, they grow lazy, and will not hunt as long as they can do without it; indeed thoſe who trade at this place, are of that beggarly kind, who continue here after they have ſold their ſkins and devoured what they have got for them, and then depend upon the people of this place and its vicinity for a ſubſiſtence for ſeveral weeks; or in the ſeaſon pillage the corn fields of the farmers, of a great part of the crop. If while they are trading they receive any injury, by application to any of our magiſtrates, they would receive as much ſatisfaction as the caſe will admit; and there are many perſons in this place who ſpeak Indian well, that would interpret for them on ſuch occaſions, without receiving a yearly ſalary. It is hoped council will examine this affair minutely, before they attempt ſaddling the ſtate with a burthen ſo obnoxious to the people.

SAILING CARRIAGE.

The carriage, in which Mr. Slater, who lately went over land with diſpatches to the Eaſt-Indies, traverſed the Arabian deſerts, went at the rate of twenty miles an hour, ſo that it was ſuppoſed from Alexandtia it would reach Boſſora in a few days. It was conſtructed with broad wheels, and impelled by ſails in the ſame manner as a ſhip, and ſo contrived, that it went as cloſe to the wind as any cutter; and carried ſwivels to guard againſt the wandering Arabs. When he firſt ſet off in this machine, the wind was fair and moderate, and he was accompanied many miles by a conſiderable number of perſons, mounted on camels and fleet horſes, whom curioſity attracted; but, in ſometime the wind freſhening the motion became ſo rapid that they were obliged to give up the purſuit. At Alexandrla ſeveral ingenius mechanics have improved upon this original mode of progreſſion, and it is ſaid that machines are now contriving which travel even with more expedition, and yet with perfect ſecurity.

PRICE CURRENT.—NEW-YORK.

JUNE 30.—DOLLARS at 8s.

JAMAICA Spirits,	5/6.
Antigua Rum,	4/9. a 5/.
St. Croix, do.	4/8.
Country, do.	3/.
Molaſſes,	2/4.
Brandy,	7/.
Geneva,	5/.
Do. in caſes,	28/.
Muſcovado Sugar,	80/. a 72/.
Loaf, do.	1/4.
Lump, do.	1/2½.
Pepper,	2/9.
Pimento,	1/4.
Coffee,	1/3. 1/4.
Indigo, (Carolina)	3/. a 6/.
Do. French,	18/. 10/.
Rice,	23/. 24/.
Superfine Flour,	62/.
Common do.	58/.
Rye do.	30/. a 28/.
Indian Meal,	18/. 20/.
Rye,	5/. pr. buſh.
Wheat,	11/. a 10/6.
Corn, (Southern)	4/.
Do. (Northern,)	4/4.
Beef, firſt quality,	48/. 50/.
Pork, firſt quality,	80/.
Oats,	2/2.
Flax-ſeed,	5/.
Ship bread per cwt.	21/. 24/.
Country refined bar-iron,	28l. a 30l.
Do. bloomery,	25l. a 26l.
Swedes do.	45l.
Ruſſia do.	30l.
Pig-iron,	8l 10/. a 9l.
German ſteel, 9d. per lb.	
ails American, by caſk. Nper. lb. 4d.	14d.
Do. do. do. 6d.	12d.
Do. do. do. 8d.	9½d.
Do. do. do. 10d.	7½d a 8½d.
Do. do. do. 12d.	
Do. do. do. 20d.	
Do. do. do, 24d.	
Pot aſh, per ton,	39l. a 40l.
Pearl aſh,	48l a 50l.
Bees-wax per lb.	2/.
Mackarel per barr.	26/. a 30/.
Herrings,	18/. 16/.
Mahogany, Jamaica, per foot,	10d.
Dominico, do.	9d.
Honduras, do.	7d.
Logwood unchipped, pr. ton.	8l.
Do. chipped.	14l.
2 inch whiteoak plank, per m.	10l. 10/.
1 inch do.	5l.
2 inch white pine plank,	8l.
1½ inch do.	6l. 10/.
1 inch do.	3l. 10/.
2 inch pitch pine do.	10l.
Do. 22 inch do.	1l. 8/.
Cedar 2 inch do.	1l. 10/
1½ inch do.	6l. 10/.
1 inch do.	4l.
Pitch pine ſcantling,	3l. 8/.
Cyprus 2 feet ſhingles,	1l. 10/.
Do. 22 inch do.	1l. 6/.
Do. 18. inch do.	18/
Butt white oak ſtaves,	36/.
Pipe do. do.	9l.
Hogſhead do. do.	6l. 10/.
Do. do. heading,	8l.
Iriſh barrel do. ſtaves,	3l. 5/.
Hogſhead red oak do.	5l. 6/.
Do. French do.	5l.
Hogſhead hoops,	4l.
Whiteoak ſquare timber per ſquare foot,	10d.
Red wood, per ton,	18l.
Fuſtick,	10l.
Beaver, per lb.	12/. a 16/.
Otter per ſkin,	9/. 32/.
Grey fox,	4/7.
Martin,	4/10.
Racoon,	3/6 a 7/6.
Muſkrat,	10d. a 14d.
Beaver hats,	64/.
Caſtor do.	48/.
Chocolate,	14d.
Cocoa.	70/. a 80/.
Cotton,	2/.
Tar, pr. bar.	11/6.
Pitch,	12/. a 13/.
Turpentine,	21/. a 20/.
Tobacco, James River,	4d. a 5½d.
Do. York,	4d. a 5½d.
Do. Rappahanock,	2d a 3½d.
Do. Maryland, coloured,	5½d.
Do. Weſtern-ſhore,	2d a 3½d.
Lead in pigs, pr cwt.	60/.
Do. bars,	68/.
Do. Shot,	68/.
Red lead,	68/.
White do. dry,	95/.
White do. in oil,	3l. 12/.
Salt-petre hams,	7½d.
Spermaceti candles,	3/.
Mould do.	11d. a 1/.
Tallow dipt,	9½d.
Soap,	5d. a 8d.
Caſtile ſoap,	9d. a 10d.
Engliſh cheeſe, pr. lb.	15d.
Country do.	5d. 6d.
Butter,	8d.
Hyſon tea,	9/.
Sequin do.	6/6.
Bohea do.	2/6.
Ginſeng,	2/. a 2/6.
Starch Poland,	7d.
Snuff,	2/3.
Allum ſalt, water meaſure, pr. buſh.	3/6.
Liverpool do.	2/.
Madeira wine, pr. pipe,	60l. a 90l.
Port,	46l.
Liſbon, pr. gal.	5/
Teneriff,	4/.
Fyall,	3/3.
Spermaceti do,	6l.
Shake-down hhds.	3/6
Dutch gun-powder, pr. cwt.	6l.
Nail rods, pr. ton,	34l. 3 8l.
Lintſeed oil, pr. gal.	4/.
Whale do. pr. barrel,	50/. a56/.

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